

REMARKS

In the Restriction Requirement, the examiner asserts that the application contains claims directed to more than one species of the generic invention. The species are as follows:

A. In claim 1: Whereby the fermentation product extracted is selected from the group consisting of:

- i) 4-hydroxybenzoic acid,
- ii) benzaldehyde,
- iii) a catechol,

If elected further election of:

- iiia) 3-methylcatechol,
- iiib) other(s)-please specify the catechol,
- iii c) any combination of above iii a and iiib)
- iv) benzylalcohol,
- v) cinnamic acid,
- vi) phenol,
- vii) a mixture thereof any of above-please specify the compounds.

B. In claim 20: Whereby the biocatalyst is selected from the group consisting of:

- a) *Pseudomonas putida*,
- b) *Escherichia coli*,
- c) *Sacharomyces cerevisiae*,
- d) *Lactobacillus* species,
- e) *Aspergillus niger*,
- f) other(s)-please specify,
- g) any combination of above-please specify.

C. In claim 16: Whereby the solvent impregnated carrier comprises one or more components selected from:

1. polymeric carrier selected from:

- a) polystyrene,
- b) polypropylene or polyethylene,
- c) polytetrafluoroethylene,
- d) silicone,
- e) (regenerated) cellulose,

- f) other-please specify,
 - g) mixtures of above-please specify,
 - h) copolymers of above-please specify
 - i) crosslinked of any above-please specify,
 - j) any combination of above-please specify.
- 2. an inorganic carrier selected from consisting of
 - a) silica,
 - b) alumina,
 - c) aluminosilicates,
 - d) other(s)-please specify.
 - e) any combination of above-please specify.
- 3. Whereby the solvent impregnated carrier selected from:
 - a) any carrier other than above 1 or 2-please specify,
 - b) any combination of above 1 (polymeric), 2 (inorganic) or 3(a)-please specify-the components,
 - c) any other combination of above 1, 2 or 3- please specify the specific combination.
- D) In claim 13: Whereby the separation is carried out by:
 - a) steam stripping,
 - b) back-extraction,
 - c) heating,
 - d) other(s)-please specify,
 - e) any combination of above- please specify.

In response, Applicants elect the following species:

- A: phenol (New claim 26)
- B: *Pseudomonas putida* (New claim 27)
- C: polystyrene (New claim 28)

D: steam stripping (New claim 29)

New claims 26-29 have been added which are directed to the elected species. Claims 12-29 are now pending examination.

Applicants respectfully submit that the application is now in condition for examination. If resolution of any remaining issue is required, it is respectfully requested that the examiner contact applicants' attorney at the telephone number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,

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